

Army Specialist Abigail Jenks. Specialist Jenks tragically lost her life in an airborne training exercise on Monday, April 19, 2021 at Fort Bragg.

Specialist Jenks was a native of Gansevoort, New York. She graduated from Saratoga Springs High School in 2018 and went on to enlist in the U.S. Army. In June of 2019, Specialist Jenks was assigned as a paratrooper to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. She had previously completed the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Specialist Jenks was a fire support specialist operating as a forward observer with the brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.

Specialist Jenks always knew she wanted to serve her country by enlisting in the Army. As a member of the famed 82nd Airborne Division, she excelled at her role and flourished in the rigorous and demanding environment that serving in our Armed Forces commands. In recognition of her outstanding service, Specialist Jenks was awarded the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Army Parachutist Badge. Now, she will be posthumously awarded the Meritorious Service Medal—a prestigious award only presented to those who distinguish themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement and service to the United States.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Specialist Abigail Jenks' character, bravery, and remarkable dedication to our country, and I ask this House to remember her sacrifice and legacy forever.

CELEBRATING THE CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD), which celebrated its 60th anniversary on April 21, 2021. CCAD is the premier rotary winged helicopter repair and maintenance facility for the United States Army. In the midst of a global pandemic, like a battle-hardened soldier, CCAD remains strong, committed, and dedicated to answering the nation's call and keeping the Army flag flying.

Originally named the U.S. Army Transportation Aeronautical Depot Maintenance Center (ARADMAC), CCAD was established on March 10, 1961, and accepted by the U.S. Army on April 21, 1961. Members of CCAD served abroad on the USNS Corpus Christi Bay—formerly the USS Albemarle—during the Vietnam War as the Army's only floating maintenance depot, saving time, money, and lives during the conflict. The names Huey, Chinook, Black Hawk, and Apache evoke memories, pride, and gratefulness to our veterans, active duty, and retired service members and civilians alike, whether in war or peacetime.

The freedom and the security that citizens of the United States enjoy today are a direct

result of the hard work and continuing commitment of CCAD to the mission given by the U.S. Army. Thousands of military, civilian, and contractor employees have walked the halls, worked in the hangars, turned the wrenches, flown the aircraft and dedicated themselves to the operation that began in 1961. The community leaders and citizens of Corpus Christi, Texas, recognize and appreciate the service of all personnel of the Corpus Christi Army Depot, past and present. We salute this great organizations' unending mission.

I wish the Corpus Christi Army Depot a happy 60th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER SPEAKER JOE TAITANO SAN AGUSTIN

HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor the life and legacy of former Speaker Joe Taitano San Agustin. Speaker San Agustin was a devoted public servant, political pioneer, and a true advocate for the people of Guam. Our community will fondly remember him as a compassionate leader who dedicated his entire life to uplifting others and realizing a more prosperous Guam.

When Congress issued legislation in 1968, which provided for the first popular election of the governor and lieutenant governor of Guam, Speaker San Agustin was instrumental in launching Guam's transition into self-governance. He served as the director of administration to both the last appointed and first elected governors of Guam, and by 1976, he was elected to serve as a senator in the 14th Legislature of Guam, where he made strides in economic development and the protection of public finances for two decades. Throughout his ten terms in office, he also served as speaker of the 20th, 21st, and 22nd legislatures, and following his departure from the chamber, his service continued to prove valuable as chairman of the Democratic Party of Guam from 1997 to 2001.

Speaker San Agustin's contributions toward a greater quality of life for the island's residents extended beyond traditional politics, and continue to echo in today's age. Building strongholds for our community, he notably, led twenty government employees in donating to establish the Government of Guam Federal Credit Union in 1962 and went on to serve on the board of directors for the Bank of Guam. He also fought for retirement security as chairman of the Government of Guam Retirement Fund Board and served as the executive director of the Guam Base Reuse and Closure Office.

Speaker San Agustin was an esteemed leader and advocate who dedicated his entire life to public service. His career illustrates a remarkable fidelity to just and meaningful change, and his countless contributions to our systems of governance and historic policy continue to inspire many in our community. Speaker San Agustin served with my grandfather during their time in the legislature, and I am deeply saddened by his passing. My family and I wish to extend our hearts and prayers for him and his family, and I join the

people of Guam in remembering and celebrating his life and legacy of selfless service. Our island has lost an icon, but we know he is happy with Auntie May. He will be deeply missed, and his love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of the people of Guam.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXERCISE TIGER

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, it is with a deep and poignant gratitude that I rise today to celebrate the American heroes who lost their lives seventy-seven years ago during Exercise Tiger. Paving the way for the D-Day invasion that would take place on June 6, 1944, Exercise Tiger, while once kept secret, is now regarded as having been both a tragedy and a critically instructive component of the Allies' mission to end World War II. The lives lost on that fateful day were honored by the soldiers who learned from Exercise Tiger and carried their memory into battle during the liberation of France. It is a story we must never allow ourselves to forget.

Before the assembled British, Canadian, and American forces could carry out the D-Day invasion, 4,000 soldiers conducted a massive simulated landing to rehearse and prepare for that immeasurably vital military act. However, what started as a military exercise ended as one of the greatest military tragedies of World War II. The calm, dark night of April 28, 1944, burst into chaos and combat when German U-boats ambushed the Tank Landing Ships (LSTs) transporting American soldiers. Almost 750 American servicemen, including over 200 Missourians, would give their last full measure of devotion when their vessels were either destroyed or severely damaged. But Allied forces would not be deterred, as the brave soldiers on those vessels banded together to repel enemy attacks and move forward with their mission. Even in the face of immense loss, a well-equipped enemy force, and little help from nearby Allied forces, the tenacity and determination of the soldiers and sailors involved ensured that the landing operations would continue mere hours after the initial attack. Allied Commanders planning the eventual D-Day invasion learned from Exercise Tiger and incorporated new strategies to ensure soldiers would be protected from barrage before landing on the beach. Without the bravery of the forces that fought that day, it is possible that even more American, Canadian, and British lives would have been lost on D-Day, and that the invasion of France, which hinged on secrecy, speed, and synchronicity, would have failed. It is not hyperbole to say that the soldiers and sailors of Exercise Tiger changed the course of world history and that we are forever indebted to their sacrifice.

It is a time-honored tradition in the United States for us to gather and celebrate the heroism and sacrifices of the countless fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and children who have died to protect our nation from foreign and domestic threats. On the last Monday of May, thousands congregate to quietly observe and remember the names found on marble

headstones cascading across Arlington National Cemetery. On the fourth day of July, we join friends and family for a celebration of our nation's independence. On each November 11th, we reach out to the veterans in our lives, thank them for their service, and if we are lucky, listen to their stories of service. Scattered between these national celebrations are memorials hosted in small towns and big cities across America that pay tribute to the local legends who fought to protect the freedoms we hold dear. Every year since 1989, the Exercise Tiger Commemorative Foundation, alongside the Coast Guard Station Barnegat Light, have celebrated the heroes of Exercise Tiger with a wreath-laying ceremony at stations across the United States. It is now the longest-running wreath tribute in Coast Guard history.

Moreover, this year, the Exercise Tiger Commemorative Foundation has worked with the Audrain County Commissioners to memorialize and celebrate the oft-overlooked heroism of our nation's Black soldiers and sailors. We must never lose sight of the fact that while Black soldiers were fighting for the freedom of France, they themselves were not free in America. As they parachuted in Normandy and stormed Omaha and Utah Beaches, our nation was upholding the horrors of segregation and Jim Crow. They did so because they believed in the promise of America. We are all eternally indebted to that faith and their sacrifices, and I want to thank the Foundation and the Audrain County Commissioners for working to ensure that all our veterans receive the praise, glory, and honor they have earned.

A 5,000-pound anchor, located in Audrain County, serves as the memorial for the heroes of Exercise Tiger. However, it is more than just a relic of the past. Rather, it is a constant reminder that our freedom was paid for by the sacrifices of those who came before us. At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, a blue ribbon was wrapped around that anchor, and it was only to be cut down when a vaccine was developed. On April 28, 2021, as our scientists, healthcare workers, and soldiers engage in a noble crusade against COVID-19 at vaccination sites across the country, that ribbon will be removed. While its removal does not signal the end of the pandemic, it does celebrate the fact that we are accomplishing what seemed impossible just months ago. We have demonstrated, like the Greatest Generation before us, that America can overcome any threat when we are united, be it a fleet of enemy submarines or an elusive virus. That capacity will always be worth celebrating.

Madam Speaker, please join me and my colleagues in honoring the nearly 750 Americans, including 201 Missourians, who gave their lives during Exercise Tiger. Additionally, please join me in extending a heartfelt "thank you" to the Audrain County Commissioners, the Exercise Tiger Commemorative Foundation, and the Coast Guard Station Barnegat Light, for organizing these memorial events each year since 1989. On April 28th, it is my fervent hope that we all take a moment to remember the victims and veterans of Exercise Tiger and to re-affirm our commitment to honoring their legacy each day through selfless service to others in our community.

RECOGNIZING THE LIMA NOON OPTIMIST CLUB'S ANNUAL YOUTH APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I always appreciate the opportunity to share positive news about young people from Ohio's Fourth Congressional District. Today, I am pleased to commend to the House twelve high school students who are being honored for their outstanding leadership skills and volunteerism.

On Wednesday, the Noon Optimist Club of Lima, Ohio, will recognize Tyler Arheit, Anna Delamotte, Lily Floyd, Addison Jones, Aubree Linhart, Lucas Prichard, Trenton Stout, Sara Watkins, Thomas Williamson, Trace Wilson, Ryan Zheng, and Zachary Zwiebel at its annual youth appreciation luncheon. These students were each nominated by their schools for being good role models for their peers.

I thank the Optimists for their efforts to celebrate the many achievements of these students and am proud to join in the accolades to them. They have my very best wishes for continued success in their lives in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, my vote was not recorded on the Motion to Table H. Res. 331. To clarify, here is the correct information with respect to that vote:

Roll Call Vote Number 122: Yea.

IN HONOR OF UAW LOCAL 276 MEMBER KAREN ROHRSSSEN

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to retiring UAW member Karen Rohrssen. Karen is the Administrative Assistant for the United Automobile, Aerospace and Agriculture Implement Works of America Local 276 in Grand Prairie, TX.

With 36 years of faithful service to UAW Local 276, Karen Rohrssen is the conscience and heartbeat of the organization. Her dedication to supporting its members goes above and beyond expectations. She is an essential member of Local 276 who has given her time and talents to helping others.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Karen Rohrssen and extending our best wishes to her for continued success. Her leadership will be greatly missed, but I know she will continue to be an active member of our community and continue to support local union members.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. GIBBS. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes in Washington, D.C. due to a health issue which prevented me from traveling from my home district.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 120 and YEA on Roll Call No. 121.

HONORING UNITED STATES ARMY PRIVATE WALTER A. SMEAD FOR HIS HEROIC SACRIFICE AT THE BATTLE OF CHOSIN RESERVOIR DURING THE KOREAN WAR

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army Private Walter A. Smead for his heroic sacrifice at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir during the Korean War, where he ultimately gave his life for his country at the young age of 24. His remains were recently returned to the United States in 2018 and at long last, identified in March of 2021, after he was listed as missing in action in 1950 and then presumed dead since 1953.

Private Smead was born and raised in Saratoga County, New York in the Town of Hadley. After enlisting in the Army and joining Battery A, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division, he was deployed to Europe in World War II and then to Korea when the North invaded the South in 1950. Private Smead was reported missing in action at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir after his unit valiantly provided cover for retreating forces before retreating themselves. In 1953, he was presumed dead but, for decades, Private Smead's family had no body to bury or knowledge of how he ultimately met his end. The conflict at the Chosin Reservoir saw more than 7,500 American casualties on the battlefield, and thousands more perished due to freezing temperatures and harsh conditions.

Through the dedication and perseverance of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, the remains of Private Smead were finally identified on March 17, 2021 through DNA matching. His brother and fellow U.S. Army veteran, Douglas, never stopped searching or gave up hope that he would discover additional information about his brother's death. This recent discovery can hopefully provide closure to Private Smead's family. His brave sacrifice in the line of duty helped to ensure the safety of countless U.S. service members, and for his valor, he was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Korean Ambassador for Peace medal.

Private Smead will finally receive the burial he deserves with full military honors at the Saratoga National Cemetery this summer. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to remember Private Smead's great sacrifice, and I thank him for his service to his country, protecting our American ideals of freedom and democracy for all.